



ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Dakar invites currently enrolled Senegalese high school and university students to participate in an English Language essay contest honoring **Black History Month**.

Several winners will also receive certificates and prizes from the U.S. Embassy in Dakar.

Essay Topic and Deadline

Topic: “Women of Strength”. Choose at least one African American woman and one West African Woman. Write a comparative essay discussing their contributions to society. Their contributions can be in any field such as health, business, politics, education or the arts. How have they helped improve their countries? What are the similarities and differences among these women?

Deadline:

- **Friday, February 3, 2012 at 05:00 PM**
- Early submissions are welcome!

Contest Guidelines and Regulations

- Contest participation is free of charge.
- All entries must be written in English and edited by the named participant, without assistance from others.
- Submissions must be original essays, 300-500 words. Essays must be typed, double spaced, Times New Roman- 12 point font. Plagiarized essays will be disqualified.
- Points will be awarded for originality, clarity, appropriate language use, effectiveness of argument and relevance to the topic.
- The decisions of the judges are final.
- By participating in this contest, the winner grants the Embassy permission to use, copy, or quote from his/her essay in promotion materials related to **Black History Month**.
- Only currently enrolled high school and university students are eligible. You must be a citizen of Senegal.
- The first place winner’s essay will be published in the Embassy La Palabre newsletter and Facebook page.
- Winners will be notified via email by **Wednesday, February 15, 2012**
- Please submit essays at educationusadkr@state.gov